Special Package to prevent suicides by farmers

2649. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised a special package to prevent suicides by farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the districts to be covered under the package and the responsibility for its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) 31 worst affected districts reporting maximum number of suicide by farmers have been identified by the Ministry of Agriculture. The districts are:—

Andhra Pradesh - 16 Districts:

1. Prakasam, 2. Guntur, 3. Nelore, 4. Chittoor, 5. Guddapah, 6. Ananthapur, 7. Kurnool, 8. Adilabad, 9. Karimnagar, 10. Khammam, 11. Mahbubnagar, 12. Medak, 13. Nalgonda, 14. Nizamabad, 15. Rangareddy, 16. Warangal.

Karnataka-6 Districts:

1. Belgaum, 2 Hasan, 3. Chitradurga, 4. Chikmagiur, 5. Kodagu, 6. Shimoga

Kerala-3 Districts:

1. Wayanad, 2. Palakkad, 3. Kasaragod.

Maharashtra-6 Districts:

1. Akola, 2. Wardha, 3. Amravati, 4. Buldhana, 5. Washim, 6. Yavatmal

However, as of date a package has been finalised for implementation for six districts of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra. The main items of the package are as under:—

Ex-gratia Assistance from Prime Minister National Relief Fund (PMNRF); Debt Relief to Farmers; Credit Flow, Interest Waiver, Assured Irrigation facilities; Seed replacement and cropping intensity Watershed Development; Horticulture Development; Micro Irrigation;Extension Services; Subsidiary Income and Implementation Mechanism.

The main items of the package relating to agriculture credit for the six districts of Vidarbha Region of Maharashtra are as follows:

(i) The entire interest on overdue loans as on 01.07.2006 will be waived in the six affected districts such that all farmers will have no past interest burden as on that date.

(ii) The overdue loans of the farmers as on 01.07.2006 will be rescheduled over a period of 3-5 years with a one year moratorium.

(iii) an additional credit flow of Rs. 1275 crores will be ensured in these six districts in 2006-07.

The Banks operating in Vidarbha Region have been advised to ensure that all the farmers loan accounts which are overdue on July 01, 2006 are rescheduled on the lines of the package and the interest thereon is waived. Besides, a Steering Committee of the State Level Banker's Committee (SLBC) is monitoring the progress of implementation of the package. District teams have also been constituted with representatives from NABARD, RBI and Banks to monitor the implementation of the package at the field level.

Financial Performance of Residuary Non-Banking Finance Companies

2650. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has done any study/inquiry about functioning, deposit mobilization, investment, financial performance of major residuary Non-Banking companies recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any special audit has been undertaken;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to protect small investors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that they have not conducted any specific study regarding these aspects. However, RBI has been carrying out inspection of Residuary Non-Banking Companies (RNBCs) under RBI Act, 1934. During the course of inspection these aspects are examined.